



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 569

January Session, 2017

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1014

Senate, April 12, 2017

The Committee on Education reported through SEN. SLOSSBERG of the 14th Dist. and SEN. BOUCHER of the 26th Dist., Chairpersons of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 84 of public act 13-3, as amended by section 15 of
2 public act 13-122, section 191 of public act 13-247, section 73 of public act
3 14-98, section 1 of public act 15-5 and section 1 of public act 16-171, is
4 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
5 *passage*):

6 (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2013, to June 30, [2017] 2018,
7 inclusive, the Departments of Emergency Services and Public
8 Protection, Administrative Services and Education shall jointly
9 administer a school security infrastructure competitive grant program
10 to reimburse a town, regional educational service center, the governing
11 authority for a state charter school, the Department of Education on
12 behalf of the technical high school system, an incorporated or
13 endowed high school or academy approved by the State Board of

14 Education pursuant to section 10-34 of the general statutes and the
15 supervisory agent for a nonpublic school, including a licensed child
16 care center or preschool that has received threats, for certain expenses
17 for schools incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for: (1) The
18 development or improvement of the security infrastructure of schools,
19 based on the results of school building security assessments pursuant
20 to subsection (d) of this section, including, but not limited to, the
21 installation of surveillance cameras, penetration resistant vestibules,
22 ballistic glass, solid core doors, double door access, computer-
23 controlled electronic locks, entry door buzzer systems, scan card
24 systems, panic alarms, real time interoperable communications and
25 multimedia sharing infrastructure or other systems; and (2) (A) the
26 training of school personnel in the operation and maintenance of the
27 security infrastructure of school buildings, or (B) the purchase of
28 portable entrance security devices, including, but not limited to, metal
29 detector wands and screening machines and related training.

30 (b) (1) On and after April 4, 2013, each local and regional board of
31 education may, on behalf of its town or its member towns, apply, at
32 such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency
33 Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of
34 Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain
35 expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such board of education
36 incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in
37 subsection (a) of this section. Prior to the date that the School Safety
38 Infrastructure Council makes its initial submission of the school safety
39 infrastructure standards, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r
40 of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and
41 Public Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of
42 Administrative Services and Education, shall determine which
43 expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. On and
44 after the date that the School Safety Infrastructure Council submits the
45 school safety infrastructure standards, the decision to approve or deny
46 an application and the determination of which expenses are eligible for
47 reimbursement under the program shall be in accordance with the
48 most recent submission of the school safety infrastructure standards,

49 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

50 (2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and June
51 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, a regional educational service center may
52 apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of
53 Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the
54 Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant
55 for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such regional
56 educational service center incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the
57 purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department
58 shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which
59 expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such
60 decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure
61 standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of
62 the general statutes.

63 (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and June
64 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, the governing authority for a state charter
65 school may apply, at such time and in such manner as the
66 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes,
67 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a
68 grant for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such
69 governing authority incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the
70 purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department
71 shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which
72 expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such
73 decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure
74 standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of
75 the general statutes.

76 (4) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and June
77 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, the superintendent of the technical high
78 school system may apply, at such time and in such manner as the
79 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes,
80 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a
81 grant for certain expenses for schools in the technical high school

82 system incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described
83 in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether
84 to approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for
85 reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in
86 accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed
87 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

88 (5) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and June
89 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, an incorporated or endowed high school or
90 academy may apply, at such time and in such manner as the
91 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes,
92 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a
93 grant for certain expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the
94 purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department
95 shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which
96 expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such
97 decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure
98 standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of
99 the general statutes.

100 (6) (A) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and
101 June 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, the supervisory agent for a nonpublic
102 school may apply, at such time and in such manner as the
103 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes,
104 to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a
105 grant for certain expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such
106 supervisory agent incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the
107 purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department
108 shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which
109 expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such
110 decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure
111 standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of
112 the general statutes.

113 (B) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and June
114 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, ten per cent of the funds available under the

115 program shall be awarded to the supervisory agents of nonpublic
116 schools, in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (6) of
117 subsection (c) of this section.

118 (c) (1) A town may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its
119 eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined as follows: (A)
120 Each town shall be ranked in descending order from one to one
121 hundred sixty-nine according to town wealth, as defined in
122 subdivision (26) of section 10-262f of the general statutes, (B) based
123 upon such ranking, a percentage of not less than twenty or more than
124 eighty shall be assigned to each town on a continuous scale, and (C)
125 the town ranked first shall be assigned a percentage of twenty and the
126 town ranked last shall be assigned a percentage of eighty.

127 (2) A regional educational service center may receive a grant equal
128 to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be
129 determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (A)
130 multiplying the population of each member town in the regional
131 educational service center by such town's ranking, as determined in
132 subsection (a) of section 10-285a of the general statutes; (B) adding
133 together the figures for each town determined under subparagraph (A)
134 of this subdivision; and (C) dividing the total computed under
135 subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total population of all
136 member towns in the regional educational service center. The ranking
137 of each regional educational service center shall be rounded to the next
138 higher whole number and each such center shall receive the same
139 reimbursement percentage as would a town with the same rank.

140 (3) The governing authority for a state charter school may receive a
141 grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses that is the same as
142 the town in which such state charter school is located, as calculated
143 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

144 (4) The Department of Education, on behalf of the technical high
145 school system, may receive a grant equal to one hundred per cent of its
146 eligible expenses.

147 (5) An incorporated or endowed high school or academy may
148 receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The
149 percentage shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be
150 determined by (A) multiplying the total population, as defined in
151 section 10-261 of the general statutes, of each town which at the time of
152 application for such school security infrastructure competitive grant
153 has designated such school as the high school for such town for a
154 period of not less than five years from the date of such application, by
155 such town's percentile ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of
156 section 10-285a of the general statutes, (B) adding together the figures
157 for each town determined under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision,
158 and (C) dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this
159 subdivision by the total population of all towns which designate the
160 school as their high school under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision.
161 The ranking determined pursuant to this subsection shall be rounded
162 to the next higher whole number. Such incorporated or endowed high
163 school or academy shall receive the reimbursement percentage of a
164 town with the same rank.

165 (6) The supervisory agent for a nonpublic school may receive a
166 grant equal to fifty per cent of its eligible expenses.

167 (d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, if there are not
168 sufficient funds to provide grants to all towns, based on the percentage
169 determined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the
170 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
171 consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and
172 Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools with
173 the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said
174 commissioners based on school building security assessments of the
175 schools under the jurisdiction of the town's school district conducted
176 pursuant to this subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such
177 schools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, said
178 commissioners shall give first priority to applicants on behalf of
179 schools that have no security infrastructure at the time of such school
180 building security assessment and succeeding priority to applicants on

181 behalf of schools located in priority school districts pursuant to section
182 10-266p of the general statutes. To be eligible for reimbursement
183 pursuant to this section, an applicant board of education shall (A)
184 demonstrate that it has developed and periodically practices an
185 emergency plan at the schools under its jurisdiction and that such plan
186 has been developed in concert with applicable state or local first-
187 responders, and (B) provide for a uniform assessment of the schools
188 under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure, using the
189 National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe Schools
190 Facilities Checklist. The assessment shall be conducted under the
191 supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

192 (2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and June
193 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, if there are not sufficient funds to provide
194 grants to all applicants that are towns, regional educational service
195 centers, governing authorities for state charter schools, the Department
196 of Education, on behalf of the technical high school system, and
197 incorporated or endowed high schools or academies based on the
198 percentage determined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the
199 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
200 consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and
201 Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools with
202 the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said
203 commissioners based on school building security assessments of the
204 schools under the jurisdiction of the applicant conducted pursuant to
205 this subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the
206 greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give
207 first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security
208 infrastructure at the time of such school building security assessment
209 and succeeding priority to applicants on behalf of schools located in
210 priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general
211 statutes. To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an
212 applicant shall (A) demonstrate that it has developed and periodically
213 practices an emergency plan at the schools under its jurisdiction and
214 that such plan has been developed in concert with applicable state or
215 local first-responders, and (B) provide for a uniform assessment of the

216 schools under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure,
217 using the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe
218 Schools Facilities Checklist. The assessment shall be conducted under
219 the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

220 (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, [June 30, 2016, and June
221 30, 2017] to June 30, 2018, if there are not sufficient funds to provide
222 grants to all applicant supervisory agents for nonpublic schools, based
223 on the percentages described in subsection (c) of this section, the
224 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
225 consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and
226 Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools with
227 the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined by said
228 commissioners. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the
229 greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give
230 first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security
231 infrastructure at the time of application. To be eligible for
232 reimbursement pursuant to this section, an applicant supervisory
233 agent for a nonpublic school shall (A) demonstrate that it has
234 developed and periodically practices an emergency plan at the school
235 under its jurisdiction and that such plan has been developed in concert
236 with applicable state or local first-responders, and (B) provide for a
237 uniform assessment of the schools under its jurisdiction, including any
238 security infrastructure, using the National Clearinghouse for
239 Educational Facilities' Safe Schools Facilities Checklist. The assessment
240 shall be conducted under the supervision of the local law enforcement
241 agency.

242 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) Except as otherwise provided in
243 section 10-145b, 10-145f or 10-146c of the general statutes, the State
244 Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper application, shall issue a
245 nonrenewable out-of-state teacher permit with the appropriate
246 endorsement, subject to the provisions in subsection (i) of section 10-
247 145b of the general statutes, relating to the denial of applications for a
248 permit, to any teacher from another state, territory or possession of the
249 United States or the District of Columbia or the Commonwealth of

250 Puerto Rico who has taught under an appropriate certificate issued by
251 another state, territory or possession of the United States or the District
252 of Columbia or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for two or more
253 years. Such person shall be exempt from (1) taking the state reading,
254 writing and mathematics competency examination, prescribed by and
255 administered under the direction of the State Board of Education, (2)
256 completing the beginning educator program based upon such teaching
257 experience upon a showing of effectiveness as a teacher, as determined
258 by the State Board of Education, and (3) completing a course of study
259 in special education, pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-145b of
260 the general statutes. The nonrenewable out-of-state teacher permit
261 shall be valid for four years from the date it is issued.

262 Sec. 3. Section 10-145m of the general statutes is repealed and the
263 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

264 (a) The State Board of Education, upon receipt of a proper
265 application, shall issue a resident teacher certificate to any applicant in
266 the certification endorsement areas of elementary education, middle
267 grades education, secondary academic subjects, special subjects or
268 fields, special education, early childhood education and administration
269 and supervision, who (1) holds a bachelor's degree from an institution
270 of higher education accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher
271 Education or Office of Higher Education or regionally accredited, (2)
272 possesses a minimum undergraduate college cumulative grade point
273 average of 3.00, (3) has achieved a qualifying score, as determined by
274 the State Board of Education, on the appropriate State Board of
275 Education approved subject area assessment, and (4) is enrolled in an
276 alternate route to certification program, approved by the State Board of
277 Education, that meets the guidelines established by the No Child Left
278 Behind Act, P.L. 107-110.

279 (b) Each such resident teacher certificate shall be valid for [one year]
280 two years, and may be extended by the Commissioner of Education for
281 an additional one year for good cause upon the request of the
282 superintendent of schools for the school district employing such

283 person.

284 (c) During the period of employment in a public school, a person
285 holding a resident teacher certificate shall be the teacher of record and
286 be under the supervision of the superintendent of schools or of a
287 principal, administrator or supervisor designated by such
288 superintendent who shall regularly observe, guide and evaluate the
289 performance of assigned duties by such holder of a resident teacher
290 certificate.

291 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of section 10-
292 145b, on and after July 1, 2009, the State Board of Education, upon
293 receipt of a proper application, shall issue an initial educator
294 certificate, which shall be valid for three years, to any person who (1)
295 successfully completed an alternate route to certification program,
296 approved by the State Board of Education, that meets the guidelines
297 established by the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, (2) taught
298 successfully as the teacher of record while holding a resident teacher
299 certificate, and (3) meets the requirements established in subsection (b)
300 of section 10-145f.

301 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 10-15b of the general statutes is
302 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
303 *1, 2017*):

304 (a) Either parent or legal guardian of a minor student shall, upon
305 written request to a local or regional board of education and within a
306 reasonable time, be entitled to knowledge of and access to all
307 educational, medical, or similar records maintained in such student's
308 cumulative record, except that no parent or legal guardian shall be
309 entitled to information considered privileged under section 10-154a.
310 Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit a parent who is
311 incarcerated from being entitled to knowledge of and access to all
312 educational, medical or similar records maintained in the cumulative
313 record of any minor student of such incarcerated parent, except that
314 such incarcerated parent shall not be entitled to such records if (1) such
315 information is considered privileged under section 10-154a, (2) such

316 incarcerated parent has been convicted in this state or any other state
317 of a violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or
318 53a-73a, or (3) such incarcerated parent is prohibited from knowledge
319 of or access to such student's cumulative record pursuant to a court
320 order.

321 Sec. 5. Section 10-144d of the general statutes is repealed and the
322 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

323 (a) For purposes of this section "teacher" means a certified
324 professional employee who is employed by a local or regional board of
325 education (1) in a position requiring a teaching or other certificate
326 issued by the State Board of Education but who is not in a position
327 requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisor certificate, or the
328 equivalent thereof, and (2) whose administrative or supervisory duties,
329 if any, equal less than fifty per cent of the assigned time of such
330 employee.

331 (b) There is established the Connecticut Advisory Council for
332 Teacher Professional Standards. The council shall be composed of
333 seventeen members appointed as follows: The Governor shall appoint
334 one public member who shall represent business and industry; the
335 State Board of Education shall appoint two members, one of whom
336 shall be a member of the faculty or administration of a State Board of
337 Education approved teacher preparation program and one of whom
338 shall be a public member who shall represent business and industry;
339 the president pro tempore of the Senate shall appoint one member
340 who shall represent business and industry; the speaker of the House of
341 Representatives shall appoint one member who shall be a parent of a
342 child attending a public elementary or secondary school; the majority
343 leader of the Senate shall appoint one member who shall be a member
344 of a local or regional board of education; the majority leader of the
345 House of Representatives shall appoint one member who shall be a
346 school superintendent; the minority leader of the Senate shall appoint
347 two members, one of whom shall be a public member and one of
348 whom shall be a parent of a child attending a public elementary or

349 secondary school; the minority leader of the House of Representatives
350 shall appoint two members, one of whom shall be a public member
351 and one of whom shall be a school administrator; the Connecticut
352 Education Association shall appoint four members who shall be
353 classroom teachers at the time of their appointment and during the
354 term of their membership on the council, two of whom shall be
355 elementary school teachers; and the [Connecticut Federation of
356 Educational and Professional Employees] American Federation of
357 Teachers-Connecticut shall appoint two members who shall be
358 classroom teachers at the time of their appointment and during the
359 term of their membership on the council, one of whom shall be an
360 elementary school teacher. All appointments shall be made and the
361 names of the persons appointed shall be submitted to the
362 Commissioner of Education not later than October 1, 1990.

363 (c) The initial terms for the members appointed by the Governor,
364 the State Board of Education and the majority and minority leaders of
365 the House of Representatives, two of the members appointed by the
366 Connecticut Education Association and one of the members appointed
367 by the [Connecticut State Federation of Teachers] American Federation
368 of Teachers-Connecticut shall terminate on September 30, 1991. The
369 initial terms for all other members shall terminate on September 30,
370 1992. Terms following the initial terms shall be for three years, except
371 that terms following the initial terms for the members appointed by
372 the Governor and the State Board of Education, and terms following
373 the initial terms for two of the members appointed by the Connecticut
374 Education Association, shall terminate on September 30, 1993; and
375 terms following the initial terms for the members appointed by the
376 president pro tempore of the Senate and terms following the initial
377 terms for one of the members appointed by the Connecticut Education
378 Association shall terminate on September 30, 1994; thereafter, terms for
379 such appointees shall be for three years.

380 (d) The Commissioner of Education shall convene the first meeting
381 of the council not later than November 15, 1990. The council shall
382 establish its procedures and shall select from its membership a

383 chairperson who shall be a classroom teacher.

384 (e) The council shall (1) advise the State Board of Education, the
385 Governor and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
386 having cognizance of matters relating to education concerning teacher
387 preparation, teacher recruitment, teacher retention, teacher
388 certification, teacher professional development, teacher assessment
389 and evaluation and teacher professional discipline; (2) review and
390 comment upon all regulations and other standards concerning the
391 approval of teacher preparation programs and teacher certification; (3)
392 report to the State Board of Education, the Governor and the joint
393 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
394 matters relating to education not later than January 15, 1991, and
395 annually thereafter, on its activities and recommendations, if any,
396 concerning the condition of the teaching profession; and (4) develop a
397 code of professional responsibility for teachers not later than
398 September 30, 1991.

399 Sec. 6. Section 10-91h of the general statutes is repealed and the
400 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

401 (a) Each local and regional board of education shall annually
402 provide to the Auditors of Public Accounts (1) the number of students
403 under the jurisdiction of such board of education who receive special
404 education and related services from a private provider of special
405 education services, [as defined in section 10-91g,] and (2) the amount
406 of money paid to such private providers of special education services
407 by the board during the previous fiscal year.

408 (b) Each local and regional board of education that has entered into
409 an agreement pursuant to section 10-76d with a private provider of
410 special education services, shall submit to an audit conducted by the
411 Auditors of Public Accounts for the purposes of examining such
412 board's monitoring of student attendance at such private provider of
413 special education services to ensure that proper services are being
414 provided and costs are being controlled. Such board shall provide
415 access to all records and accounts necessary to said auditors for

416 purposes of conducting such audit.

417 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) Any local and regional board of
418 education that has entered into an agreement, pursuant to section 10-
419 76d of the general statutes, with a private provider of special education
420 services, as defined in section 10-91g of the general statutes, may (1)
421 require such private provider of special education services to submit
422 monthly or quarterly reports to such board regarding the specific
423 services and frequency of such services being provided by such private
424 provider of special education services to students under the
425 agreement, (2) review and reconcile such reports to the contracted
426 services described in the agreement, and (3) conduct periodic site visits
427 at the location where such private provider of special education
428 services provides services.

429 Sec. 8. (*Effective July 1, 2017*) (a) For the school years commencing
430 July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2025, inclusive, the local or regional boards of
431 education for each town located within twelve miles of the school
432 districts of West Hartford, New Haven, Shelton and Montville, shall
433 participate in a pilot program to provide school transportation services
434 for resident students to attend an equivalent nonpublic school located
435 in the school districts of West Hartford, New Haven, Shelton and
436 Montville. Any request made by a resident student for the provision of
437 such transportation services under this section shall be made to the
438 local or regional board of education for the town of such resident
439 student at least thirty days prior to receiving such transportation
440 services. For purposes of this subsection, "resident student" means any
441 student who is a resident of a town located within twelve miles of the
442 school districts of West Hartford, New Haven, Shelton and Montville,
443 and, for the school years commencing July 1, 2016, to July 1, 2025,
444 inclusive, is enrolled in a nonpublic school located in the school
445 districts of West Hartford, New Haven, Shelton and Montville.

446 (b) The local or regional board of education for the town of any
447 resident student who requests and receives transportation services
448 under subsection (a) of this section shall be reimbursed in an amount

449 equal to the cost of such transportation for such resident student by
450 either the resident student or by the nonpublic school in which such
451 resident student is enrolled.

452 (c) A local or regional board of education shall not be required to
453 provide such transportation services under this section if fewer than
454 ten resident students request such board to provide such
455 transportation services.

456 (d) A local or regional board of education providing such
457 transportation services under this section may designate one or more
458 pick-up and drop-off locations within the town.

459 Sec. 9. Subsection (a) of section 10-214 of the general statutes is
460 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
461 *1, 2017*):

462 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall provide annually
463 to each pupil in kindergarten and grades one and three to five,
464 inclusive, a vision screening, using a Snellen chart, or equivalent
465 screening device, including, but not limited to, an automated vision
466 screening device. The superintendent of schools shall give written
467 notice to the parent or guardian of each pupil (1) who is found to have
468 any defect of vision or disease of the eyes, with a brief statement
469 describing such defect or disease, and (2) who did not receive such
470 vision screening, with a brief statement explaining why such pupil did
471 not receive such vision screening.

472 Sec. 10. Section 10-221d of the general statutes is repealed and the
473 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

474 (a) Each local and regional board of education, each governing
475 council of a state or local charter school, [and] each interdistrict magnet
476 school operator and each supervisory agent of a nonpublic school shall
477 (1) require each applicant for a position in a public school with such
478 board, council or operator or nonpublic school with such supervisory
479 agent to state whether such applicant has ever been convicted of a

480 crime or whether criminal charges are pending against such applicant,
481 (2) require each applicant to submit to a records check of the
482 Department of Children and Families child abuse and neglect registry
483 established pursuant to section 17a-101k, before such applicant may be
484 hired by such board, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent, (3) on
485 and after July 1, [2016] 2017, require, subject to the provisions of
486 subsection (d) of this section, each applicant for a position to submit to
487 state and national criminal history records checks within thirty days
488 from the date of employment and may require, subject to the
489 provisions of subsection (d) of this section, any person hired prior to
490 said date to submit to state and national criminal history records
491 checks, and (4) require each worker (A) placed within a school under a
492 public assistance employment program, (B) employed by a provider of
493 supplemental services pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L.
494 107-110, or (C) in a nonpaid, noncertified position completing
495 preparation requirements for the issuance of an educator certificate
496 pursuant to chapter 166, who performs a service involving direct
497 student contact to submit to state and national criminal history records
498 checks within thirty days from the date such worker begins to perform
499 such service. The criminal history records checks required by this
500 subsection shall be conducted in accordance with section 29-17a. If the
501 local or regional board of education receives notice of a conviction of a
502 crime which has not previously been disclosed by such person to the
503 board, the board may (i) terminate the contract of a certified employee,
504 in accordance with the provisions of section 10-151, and (ii) dismiss a
505 noncertified employee, provided such employee is notified of the
506 reason for such dismissal. In addition, if the local or regional board of
507 education receives notice of a conviction of a crime by a person (I)
508 holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board
509 of Education, (II) employed by a provider of supplemental services, or
510 (III) in a nonpaid, noncertified position completing preparation
511 requirements for the issuance of an educator certificate pursuant to
512 chapter 166, the local or regional board of education shall send such
513 notice to the State Board of Education. [The supervisory agent of a
514 private school may require any applicant for a position in such school

515 or any employee of such school to submit to state and national
516 criminal history records checks in accordance with the procedures
517 described in this subsection.]

518 (b) If a local or regional board of education, governing council of a
519 state or local charter school, operator of an interdistrict magnet school,
520 endowed or incorporated academy approved by the State Board of
521 Education pursuant to section 10-34, [or] special education facility
522 approved by the State Board of Education pursuant to section 10-76d,
523 or supervisory agent of a nonpublic school requests, a regional
524 educational service center shall arrange for the fingerprinting of any
525 person required to submit to state and national criminal history
526 records checks pursuant to this section or for conducting any other
527 method of positive identification required by the State Police Bureau of
528 Identification or the Federal Bureau of Investigation and shall forward
529 such fingerprints or other positive identifying information to the State
530 Police Bureau of Identification which shall conduct criminal history
531 records checks in accordance with section 29-17a. Such regional
532 educational service center shall maintain such fingerprints or other
533 positive identifying information, which may be in an electronic format,
534 for a period of four years, at the end of which such fingerprints and
535 positive identifying information shall be destroyed. Such regional
536 educational service centers shall provide the results of such checks to
537 such local or regional board of education, governing council of a state
538 or local charter school, operator of an interdistrict magnet school,
539 endowed or incorporated academy, [or] special education facility or
540 supervisory agent of a nonpublic school and to a contractor, in the case
541 of any employee of an applicant contractor subject to such records
542 checks. Such regional educational service centers shall provide such
543 results to any other local or regional board of education or regional
544 educational service center upon the request of such person. No
545 regional educational service center shall charge a fee for services under
546 this subsection that exceeds any fee that the center may charge any
547 applicant for a position with such center.

548 (c) State and national criminal history records checks for substitute

549 teachers completed within one year prior to the date of employment
550 with a local or regional board of education, council, [or] operator or
551 supervisory agent and submitted to the employing board of education,
552 council, [or] operator or supervisory agent shall meet the requirements
553 of subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section. A local or regional
554 board of education, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent shall
555 not require substitute teachers to submit to state and national criminal
556 history records checks pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of
557 this section if they are continuously employed by such local or regional
558 board of education, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent,
559 provided a substitute teacher is subjected to such checks at least once
560 every five years. For purposes of this section, substitute teachers shall
561 be deemed to be continuously employed by a local or regional board of
562 education, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent if they are
563 employed at least one day of each school year by such local or regional
564 board of education, council or operator.

565 (d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a student
566 employed by the local or regional school district in which the student
567 attends school.

568 (e) The State Board of Education shall submit, periodically, a
569 database of applicants for an initial issuance of certificate,
570 authorization or permit pursuant to sections 10-144a to 10-149,
571 inclusive, to the State Police Bureau of Identification. The State Police
572 Bureau of Identification shall conduct a state criminal history records
573 check against such database and notify the State Board of Education of
574 any such applicant who has a criminal conviction. The State Board of
575 Education shall not issue a certificate, authorization or permit until it
576 receives and evaluates the results of such check and may deny an
577 application in accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of
578 section 10-145b.

579 (f) The State Board of Education shall submit, periodically, a
580 database of all persons who hold certificates, authorizations or permits
581 to the State Police Bureau of Identification. The State Police Bureau of

582 Identification shall conduct a state criminal history records check
583 against such database and shall notify the State Board of Education of
584 any such person who has a criminal conviction. The State Board of
585 Education may revoke the certificate, authorization or permit of such
586 person in accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of section 10-
587 145b.

588 (g) The State Board of Education shall require each applicant
589 seeking an initial issuance or renewal of a certificate, authorization or
590 permit pursuant to sections 10-144o to 10-149, inclusive, to submit to a
591 records check of the Department of Children and Families child abuse
592 and neglect registry established pursuant to section 17a-101k. If
593 notification is received that the applicant is listed as a perpetrator of
594 abuse or neglect on the Department of Children and Families child
595 abuse and neglect registry, the board shall deny an application for the
596 certificate, authorization or permit in accordance with the provisions of
597 subsection (i) of section 10-145b, or may revoke the certificate,
598 authorization or permit in accordance with the provisions of said
599 subsection (i).

600 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of section 31-
601 51i, the Department of Education shall, upon request of a local or
602 regional board of education, governing council of a state or local
603 charter school, [or] an interdistrict magnet school operator or the
604 supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, make available to such local
605 or regional board of education, governing council, [or] interdistrict
606 magnet school operator or supervisory agent of a nonpublic school
607 requesting information concerning an applicant for a position with
608 such board, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent (1) any
609 information concerning the applicant's eligibility for employment in a
610 position with such board, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent
611 requiring a certificate, authorization or permit issued pursuant to
612 chapter 166, (2) whether the department has knowledge that the
613 applicant has been disciplined for a finding of abuse or neglect or
614 sexual misconduct, as defined in section 10-222c, as amended by this
615 act, and any information concerning such a finding, and (3) whether

616 the department has received notification that the applicant has been
617 convicted of a crime or of criminal charges pending against the
618 applicant and any information concerning such charges. The
619 provisions of this subsection shall not be construed to cause the
620 department to investigate any such request.

621 Sec. 11. Section 10-222c of the general statutes is repealed and the
622 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

623 (a) No local or regional board of education, governing council of a
624 state or local charter school, [or] interdistrict magnet school operator or
625 supervisory agent of a nonpublic school shall offer employment to an
626 applicant for a position, including any position which is contracted for,
627 if such applicant would have direct student contact, prior to such
628 board, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent:

629 (1) Requiring of such applicant:

630 (A) To list the name, address and telephone number of each current
631 or former employer of the applicant, if such current or former
632 employer was a local or regional board of education, council, [or]
633 operator or supervisory agent or if such employment otherwise caused
634 the applicant to have contact with children;

635 (B) A written authorization that (i) consents to and authorizes
636 disclosure by the employers listed under subparagraph (A) of this
637 subdivision of the information requested under subdivision (2) of this
638 subsection and the release of related records by such employers, (ii)
639 consents to and authorizes disclosure by the Department of Education
640 of the information requested under subdivision (3) of this subsection
641 and the release of related records by the department, and (iii) releases
642 those employers and the department from liability that may arise from
643 such disclosure or release of records pursuant to subdivision (2) or (3)
644 of this subsection; and

645 (C) A written statement of whether the applicant (i) has been the
646 subject of an abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct investigation by

647 any employer, state agency or municipal police department, unless the
648 investigation resulted in a finding that all allegations were
649 unsubstantiated, (ii) has ever been disciplined or asked to resign from
650 employment or resigned from or otherwise separated from any
651 employment while an allegation of abuse or neglect was pending or
652 under investigation by the Department of Children and Families, or an
653 allegation of sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation or
654 due to an allegation substantiated pursuant to section 17a-101g of
655 abuse or neglect, or of sexual misconduct or a conviction for abuse or
656 neglect or sexual misconduct, or (iii) has ever had a professional or
657 occupational license or certificate suspended or revoked or has ever
658 surrendered such a license or certificate while an allegation of abuse or
659 neglect was pending or under investigation by the department or an
660 investigation of sexual misconduct was pending or under
661 investigation, or due to an allegation substantiated by the department
662 of abuse or neglect or of sexual misconduct or a conviction for abuse or
663 neglect or sexual misconduct;

664 (2) Conducting a review of the employment history of the applicant
665 by contacting those employers listed by the applicant under
666 subdivision (1) of this subsection. Such review shall be conducted
667 using a form developed by the Department of Education in accordance
668 with section 3 of public act 16-67 that shall request (A) the dates of
669 employment of the applicant, and (B) a statement as to whether the
670 employer has knowledge that the applicant (i) was the subject of an
671 allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct for which there is
672 an investigation pending with any employer, state agency or
673 municipal police department or which has been substantiated; (ii) was
674 disciplined or asked to resign from employment or resigned from or
675 otherwise separated from any employment while an allegation of
676 abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct was pending or under
677 investigation, or due to a substantiation of abuse or neglect or sexual
678 misconduct; or (iii) has ever had a professional or occupational license,
679 certificate, authorization or permit suspended or revoked or has ever
680 surrendered such a license, certificate, authorization or permit while
681 an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct was pending or

682 under investigation, or due to a substantiation of abuse or neglect or
683 sexual misconduct. Such review may be conducted telephonically or
684 through written communication. Notwithstanding the provisions of
685 subsection [(f)] (g) of section 31-51i, not later than five business days
686 after any such current or former employer of the applicant receives a
687 request for such information, such employer shall respond with such
688 information. A local or regional board of education, council, [or]
689 operator or supervisory agent may request more information
690 concerning any response made by a current or former employer, and,
691 notwithstanding the provisions of said subsection [(f)] (g), such
692 employer shall respond not later than five business days after
693 receiving such request; and

694 (3) Requesting information from the Department of Education
695 concerning (A) the eligibility status for employment of any applicant
696 for a position requiring a certificate, authorization or permit issued
697 pursuant to chapter 166, (B) whether the department has knowledge
698 that a finding has been substantiated by the Department of Children
699 and Families pursuant to section 17a-101g of abuse or neglect or of
700 sexual misconduct against the applicant and any information
701 concerning such a finding, and (C) whether the department has
702 received notification that the applicant has been convicted of a crime
703 or of criminal charges pending against the applicant and any
704 information concerning such charges.

705 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection [(f)] (g) of section
706 31-51i, any local or regional board of education, [or] council, [or]
707 operator or supervisory agent that receives information that an
708 applicant for a position with or an employee of the board has been
709 disciplined for a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct shall
710 notify the Department of Education of such information.

711 (c) No local or regional board of education, [or] council, [or]
712 operator or supervisory agent shall employ an applicant for a position
713 involving direct student contact who does not comply with the
714 provisions of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section.

715 (d) A local or regional board of education, [or] council, [or] operator
716 or supervisory agent may employ or contract with an applicant on a
717 temporary basis for a period not to exceed ninety days, pending such
718 board's review of information received under this section, provided:

719 (1) The applicant complied with subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of
720 this section;

721 (2) The board, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent has no
722 knowledge of information pertaining to the applicant that would
723 disqualify the applicant from employment with the board, council, [or]
724 operator or supervisory agent; and

725 (3) The applicant affirms that the applicant is not disqualified from
726 employment with such board, council, [or] operator or supervisory
727 agent.

728 (e) No local or regional board of education, council, [or] operator or
729 supervisory agent shall enter into a collective bargaining agreement,
730 an employment contract, an agreement for resignation or termination,
731 a severance agreement or any other contract or agreement or take any
732 action that:

733 (1) Has the effect of suppressing information relating to an
734 investigation of a report of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual
735 misconduct by a current or former employee;

736 (2) Affects the ability of the local or regional board of education,
737 council, [or] operator or supervisory agent to report suspected abuse
738 or neglect or sexual misconduct to appropriate authorities; or

739 (3) Requires the local or regional board of education, council, [or]
740 operator or supervisory agent to expunge information about an
741 allegation or a finding of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual
742 misconduct from any documents maintained by the board, unless after
743 investigation such allegation is dismissed or found to be false.

744 (f) No local or regional board of education, council, [or] operator or

745 supervisory agent shall offer employment to a person as a substitute
746 teacher, unless such person and the board comply with the provisions
747 of subsection (a) of this section. The board shall determine which such
748 persons are employable as substitute teachers and maintain a list of
749 such persons. No board, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent
750 shall hire any person as a substitute teacher who is not on such list.
751 Such person shall remain on such list as long as such person is
752 continuously employed by the board, council, [or] operator or
753 supervisory agent as a substitute teacher, as described in subsection (c)
754 of section 10-221d, as amended by this act, provided the board,
755 council, [or] operator or supervisory agent does not have any
756 knowledge of a reason that such person should be removed from such
757 list.

758 (g) In the case of an applicant who is a contractor, the contractor
759 shall require any employee with such contractor who would be in a
760 position involving direct student contact to supply to such contractor
761 all information required of an applicant under subparagraphs (A) and
762 (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section and a written
763 authorization under subparagraph (B) of said subdivision. Such
764 contractor shall contact any current or former employer of such
765 employee that was a local or regional board of education, council, [or]
766 operator or supervisory agent or if such employment caused the
767 employee to have contact with children, and request, either
768 telephonically or through written communication, any information
769 concerning whether there was a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual
770 misconduct against such employee. Notwithstanding the provisions of
771 subsection [(f)] (g) of section 31-51i, such employer shall report to the
772 contractor any such finding, either telephonically or through written
773 communication. If the contractor receives any information indicating
774 such a finding or otherwise has knowledge of such a finding, the
775 contractor shall, notwithstanding the provisions of said subsection [(f)]
776 (g), immediately forward such information to any local or regional
777 board of education with which the contractor is under contract, either
778 telephonically or through written communication. Any local or
779 regional board of education, council, [or] operator or supervisory

780 agent that receives such information shall determine whether such
781 employee may work in a position involving direct student contact at
782 any school under the board's jurisdiction. No determination by a local
783 or regional board of education that any such employee shall not work
784 under any such contract in any such position shall constitute a breach
785 of such contract.

786 (h) Any applicant who knowingly provides false information or
787 knowingly fails to disclose information required in subdivision (1) of
788 subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to discipline by the
789 employing local or regional board of education, council, [or] operator
790 or supervisory agent that may include (1) denial of employment, or (2)
791 termination of the contract of a certified employee, in accordance with
792 the provisions of section 10-151.

793 (i) Any employer who provides information in accordance with
794 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section or subsection (g) of this
795 section and the Department of Education for the provision of
796 information requested in accordance with subdivision (3) of said
797 subsection (a) shall be immune from criminal and civil liability,
798 provided the employer or department did not knowingly supply false
799 information.

800 (j) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 10-151c and subsection
801 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) of section 31-51i, a local or regional board of education, council,
802 [or] operator or supervisory agent shall provide upon request by any
803 other local or regional board of education, council, [or] operator or
804 supervisory agent for the purposes of an inquiry pursuant to
805 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section or subsection (g) of this
806 section or to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to subsection (b)
807 of this section any information that the board, council, [or] operator or
808 supervisory agent has concerning a finding of abuse or neglect or
809 sexual misconduct by a subject of any such inquiry.

810 (k) For purposes of this section and section 10-221d, as amended by
811 this act, (1) "sexual misconduct" means any verbal, nonverbal, written
812 or electronic communication, or any other act directed toward or with

813 a student that is designed to establish a sexual relationship with the
814 student, including a sexual invitation, dating or soliciting a date,
815 engaging in sexual dialog, making sexually suggestive comments, self-
816 disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual or erotic nature and any
817 other sexual, indecent or erotic contact with a student; and (2) "abuse
818 or neglect" means abuse or neglect as described in section 46b-120, and
819 includes any violation of section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-
820 72b or 53a-73a.

821 (l) Prior to offering employment to an applicant, a local or regional
822 board of education, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent shall
823 make a documented good faith effort to contact each current and any
824 former employer that was a local or regional board of education,
825 council, [or] operator or supervisory agent or if such employment
826 otherwise caused the applicant to have contact with children of the
827 applicant in order to obtain information and recommendations which
828 may be relevant to the applicant's fitness for employment, provided
829 such effort shall not be construed to require more than three telephonic
830 requests made on three separate days.

831 (m) No local or regional board of education shall offer employment
832 to any applicant who had any previous employment contract
833 terminated by a board, council, [or] operator or supervisory agent or
834 who resigned from such employment, if such person has been
835 convicted of a violation of section 17a-101a, when an allegation of
836 abuse or neglect or sexual assault has been substantiated.

837 Sec. 12. (*Effective from passage*) Not later than June 30, 2017, the
838 Department of Education shall make available to the supervisory
839 agents of nonpublic schools a standardized form of questions to be
840 directed to an employer to provide information pursuant to
841 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-222c of the general
842 statutes, as amended by this act, or subsection (g) of said section to a
843 supervisory agent requesting such information.

844 Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) A local board of education may
845 enter into an agreement with (1) the board of finance in each town or

846 city having a board of finance, (2) the board of selectmen in each town
847 having no board of finance, or (3) otherwise to the authority making
848 appropriations for the school district, to authorize such board of
849 finance, board of selectmen or such other authority making
850 appropriations to take responsibility for the provision of any
851 noneducational services being provided by such board of education.

852 Sec. 14. Section 10-212 of the general statutes is repealed and the
853 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

854 (a) Each local or regional board of education shall appoint one or
855 more school nurses or nurse practitioners. Such school nurses and
856 nurse practitioners appointed by such boards shall be qualified
857 pursuant to regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of
858 chapter 54 by the State Board of Education in consultation with the
859 Department of Public Health. Such school nurses may also act as
860 visiting nurses in the town, may visit the homes of pupils in the public
861 schools and shall assist in executing the orders of the school medical
862 advisor, if there is any in such town, and perform such other duties as
863 are required by such board.

864 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes or any
865 regulation of Connecticut state agencies, nothing in this section shall
866 be construed to prohibit the administering of medications by parents
867 or guardians to their own children on school grounds.

868 (c) School nurses and nurse practitioners appointed by or under
869 contract with any local or regional board of education and any nurse
870 provided to a nonpublic school under the provisions of section 10-217a
871 shall submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with the
872 provisions of section 29-17a.

873 (d) Any advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse who
874 is (1) licensed pursuant to chapter 378 on or after July 1, 2017, and (2)
875 appointed to be a school nurse or nurse practitioner by a local or
876 regional board of education, shall successfully complete twelve hours
877 of training, as prescribed by the Department of Education, in

878 consultation with the Association of School Nurses or a Visiting Nurse
879 Association, not later than one year after such appointment. Each such
880 school nurse or nurse practitioner shall only be responsible for
881 successfully completing such training once.

882 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) For the school year
883 commencing July 1, 2017, and each school year thereafter, each local
884 and regional board of education shall complete the Health Services
885 Program Information Survey and submit the survey to the Department
886 of Education, in a form and manner prescribed by the department.

887 Sec. 16. Subsection (a) of section 10-212f of the general statutes is
888 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
889 *1, 2017*):

890 (a) The Commissioner of Education shall establish a School Nurse
891 Advisory Council consisting of the following members:

892 (1) One representative from each state-wide bargaining
893 representative organization that represents school nurses;

894 (2) One representative of the Association of School Nurses of
895 Connecticut; [who is employed in a private or parochial school;]

896 (3) One representative of the Connecticut Nurses Association;

897 (4) One representative of the Connecticut Association of Public
898 School Superintendents;

899 (5) One representative of the Connecticut Federation of School
900 Administrators;

901 (6) One representative of the Connecticut Association of Boards of
902 Education;

903 (7) Two school district medical advisors, one of whom is a member
904 of the American Academy of Pediatrics;

905 (8) One representative of the Connecticut Association for Healthcare

906 at Home who is a school nurse; and

907 (9) The Commissioners of Education and Public Health, or the
908 commissioners' designees who shall be ex-officio, nonvoting members
909 and shall attend meetings of the advisory council.

910 Sec. 17. Subsection (h) of section 14-44 of the general statutes is
911 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
912 *1, 2017*):

913 (h) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-10, the
914 commissioner shall furnish to any board of education or to any public
915 or private organization that is actively engaged in providing public
916 transportation, including the transportation of school children, a report
917 containing the names and motor vehicle operator license numbers of
918 each person who has been issued an operator's license with one or
919 more public passenger endorsements, authorizing such person to
920 transport passengers in accordance with the provisions of section 14-
921 36a, but whose license or any such public passenger endorsement has
922 been withdrawn, suspended or revoked by the Commissioner of
923 Motor Vehicles in accordance with the provisions of this section, or
924 any other provision of this title. The report shall be issued and updated
925 periodically in accordance with a schedule to be established by the
926 Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. Such report may be transmitted or
927 otherwise made available to authorized recipients by electronic means.
928 The commissioner shall ensure that each carrier, as defined in section
929 14-212, is reviewing such report, pursuant to section 14-276, by (1)
930 conducting random compliance audits of carriers to determine
931 whether a carrier is performing such review as prescribed by said
932 section 14-276, (2) maintaining a record of each such review by a
933 carrier for the prior two years, and (3) making such record publicly
934 available upon request.

935 Sec. 18. Section 11-33 of the general statutes is repealed and the
936 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

937 When the legislative body of any municipality has decided to

938 establish a public library and reading room, the chief elected official of
939 such municipality shall, with the approval of the legislative body,
940 appoint a board of nine trustees. Not more than one member of the
941 legislative body shall be a member of such board. The trustees shall,
942 immediately after their appointment, meet and organize by the
943 election of one of their number as president and by the election of such
944 other officers as they deem necessary. They shall make and adopt (1)
945 bylaws, rules and regulations for the government of the library and
946 reading room, and (2) policies and rules regarding Internet usage and
947 content accessible by patrons of the library and reading room on
948 computers and other electronic devices provided by the library and
949 reading room. They shall have exclusive control of the expenditure of
950 all moneys collected to the credit of the library fund, and of the
951 construction of any library building, and of the supervision, care and
952 custody of the grounds, rooms or buildings constructed, leased, given
953 or set apart for that purpose; provided all moneys collected and
954 received for such purpose shall be placed in the treasury of such
955 municipality, to the credit of its library fund, and shall be kept separate
956 from other moneys of the municipality and shall be drawn upon by the
957 proper officers of the municipality, upon duly authenticated vouchers
958 of the trustees. Such board may purchase, lease or accept grounds, and
959 erect, lease or occupy an appropriate building or buildings, for the use
960 of such library, appoint a library director and all necessary assistants
961 and fix their compensation. Any person desiring to make a gift for the
962 benefit of such library may vest the title to such donation in the board
963 of trustees to be held and controlled according to the terms of the gift
964 of such property; and such board shall be special trustee thereof.

965 Sec. 19. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) The Department of Education
966 shall establish a Literacy Is Fundamental For Education program. Such
967 program shall provide, within available appropriations, grants to local
968 and regional boards of education for towns designated as alliance
969 districts, as defined in section 10-262u of the general statutes. Such
970 local or regional boards of education may submit an application in a
971 form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Education. The
972 Commissioner of Education shall award grants to those boards of

973 education whose application (1) demonstrates need through the
 974 compilation of data on literacy and numeracy challenges facing
 975 students under the jurisdiction of such board of education, (2) provides
 976 for direct literacy and numeracy interventions by pairing individual
 977 students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, with a trained
 978 literacy or numeracy specialist, (3) demonstrates outreach and
 979 collaboration with nonprofit organizations that provide literacy or
 980 numeracy services to students under the jurisdiction of the board, (4)
 981 demonstrates the engagement of parents in the development of the
 982 application and in ongoing efforts to promote literacy and numeracy
 983 among all students, and (5) demonstrates outreach to nonprofit
 984 organizations or other community partners committed to providing
 985 ongoing financial support or other in-kind services.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	PA 13-3, Sec. 84
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-145m
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-15b(a)
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-144d
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-91h
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section
Sec. 9	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-214(a)
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-221d
Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-222c
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 13	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-212
Sec. 15	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	10-212f(a)
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	14-44(h)
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	11-33
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2017</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 10(a), an opening bracket was inserted before "The supervisory agent" and a closing bracket was inserted after "in this subsection." for consistency with other provisions of the section; and in Section 17, "as defined in section 14-212," was added for clarity.

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 18 \$	FY 19 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Cost	107,864	107,864
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	23,939	23,939
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Potential	Potential

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 18 \$	FY 19 \$
Local and Regional School Districts	Revenue Gain	10 million statewide	None
Local and Regional School Districts	Cost	31,250	Minimal

Explanation

Section 1 extends the school security grant program under the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) by one year until July 1, 2018. To date, DESPP has awarded \$26.6 million in school security grants, and has a balance of \$10 million, which is anticipated to be awarded in FY 18. The infrastructure grants yield a corresponding revenue increase to receiving local and regional boards of education.

Section 2 requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to issue four-year, nonrenewable out-of-state teacher permits to qualified

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 38.08% of payroll in FY 18 and FY 19.

applicants, which has no fiscal impact.

Section 3 extends the length of a resident teacher certificate from one to two years, which has no fiscal impact.

Section 4 specifies that an incarcerated parent is entitled to knowledge of and access to educational, medical or similar records regarding their minor student, with certain exceptions. This has no fiscal impact.

Section 5 makes changes to the membership of the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards, which has no fiscal impact.

Sections 6 and 7 require local and regional boards of education to submit to audits related to students receiving special education services through a private provider. Additionally, local and regional boards of education are allowed to require reports from private providers of special education services, review and reconcile such reports, and perform site visits where such contracted providers are delivering services, which are not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

Section 8 establishes a pilot program allowing local and regional boards of education for each town located within twelve miles of the school districts of West Hartford, New Haven, Shelton and Montville to provide school transportation services for resident students to attend an equivalent non-public school in the same districts, under certain conditions. The bill requires the costs associated with such transportation to be fully reimbursed by either the resident student or the nonpublic school in which such resident student is enrolled, thus not resulting in a fiscal impact to the state or local and regional boards of education.

Section 9 specifies that the screening device used for annual vision screening by school districts may be automated, which is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

Sections 10-12 are anticipated to result in a cost of \$86,803 (\$62,864 for

salary and \$23,939 for fringe benefits) associated with one additional Education Services Assistant to conduct criminal background checks and records review for private school employee applicants.

Section 13 allows local boards of education to enter into an agreement with boards of finance, selectmen, or the authority making appropriations for the school district to perform certain non-educational functions for the board. This is not anticipated to result in a fiscal impact.

Section 14 requires certain school nurses to complete training within one year of appointment, which will result in a cost of approximately \$31,250 annually to local and regional districts (statewide) to reimburse the State Department of Education (SDE) for conducting the twelve hour training. The cost for training each new school nurse is \$250.

Section 15 requires local and regional boards of education to complete and submit the Health Services Program Information Survey to SDE, which has no fiscal impact.

Section 16 makes changes to the School Nurse Advisory Council, which has no fiscal impact.

Section 17 requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to conduct random compliance audits of school bus companies to ensure obligations are met regarding drivers who have motor vehicle operator license suspensions. This does not result in a fiscal impact as DMV has access to the required data and has standards in place to ensure proper compliance.

Section 17 also results in a potential revenue gain from companies who may be found to not be in compliance with Department of Motor Vehicle report. It is not known how many companies will subject to the \$92 infraction under this bill.

Section 18 makes changes to the policies of boards of libraries and public reading rooms, which has no fiscal impact.

Section 19 establishes the Literacy Is Fundamental for Education program in SDE, which if funded, is anticipated to result in a cost of up to \$45,000 annually. This program is not currently budgeted, and without an appropriation it would not be able to award grants to alliance districts.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1014*****AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS AND ADDITIONS TO THE EDUCATION STATUTES.*****SUMMARY**

This bill makes numerous changes to a variety of education statutes, including:

1. extending the school security grant program another year to June 30, 2018 (§ 1);
2. creating a new out-of-state teacher permit (§ 2);
3. extending the length of a resident teacher certificate from one to two years (§ 3);
4. specifying that an incarcerated parent is entitled, with exceptions, to access to all the educational, medical, or similar records of his or her minor child kept by the school district (§ 4);
5. adding measures for the Auditors of Public Accounts (hereinafter, “state auditors”) and local or regional boards of education (hereinafter, “boards”) to more closely monitor private special education providers (§§ 6 & 7);
6. creating a private school transportation pilot program in school districts within 12 miles of the West Hartford, New Haven, Shelton, and Montville school districts (§ 8);
7. extending to private schools the applicant and employee background check requirements that apply to public schools (§§ 10 & 11);
8. requiring certain training for new school nurses (§ 14);

9. requiring boards to conduct an annual health information survey (§ 15);
10. requiring the motor vehicles commissioner to ensure that school bus companies are fulfilling their duty to monitor the commissioner's periodic reports on drivers who have had their licenses withdrawn, suspended, or revoked (§ 17);
11. specifying that boards of libraries must adopt policies and rules for internet usage and content access (§ 18); and
12. creating a new Literacy is Fundamental grant program (§ 19).

It also makes a number of minor and technical changes. A section-by-section analysis follows.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2017, except the sections regarding the school security grant program and the creation of a standardized form for contacting former employers of job applicants are upon passage.

§ 1 — SCHOOL SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

This bill extends the school security infrastructure grant program for one year, from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2018. The program provides grants to develop or improve security infrastructure in schools, based on the results of school building security assessments conducted under the supervision of local law enforcement agencies (see BACKGROUND).

By law, the grants are available to private schools. The bill also specifies that this includes private child care centers or preschools that have received threats.

§ 2 — OUT-OF-STATE TEACHER PERMIT

The bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to issue an out-of-state teacher permit with the appropriate subject endorsement to teachers from another state, territory, U.S. possession, the District of Columbia, or Puerto Rico, who has taught for at least two years under an appropriate certificate issued by the other jurisdiction. The permit is

nonrenewable and valid for four years.

The bill states the new permit is subject to all the existing rules for a teacher's certification to be revoked. Under the bill, a qualified applicant is exempt from (1) taking the state reading, writing and mathematics competency examination (i.e., Praxis I); (2) completing the mandated beginning educator program based upon the applicant's teaching experience after a showing of effectiveness as a teacher, as determined by SBE; and (3) completing a minimum of 36 hours of special education study.

The bill specifies that it does not supersede other teacher certification statutes, but the existing statute that grants out-of-state teachers a provisional teacher certification is very similar to the bill (i.e., it requires the teacher to hold a certification from the other jurisdiction and to have at least two years of teaching experience (CGS § 10-145b(h)(3)). Thus, if the bill is enacted, it could cause confusion over which law applies to out-of-state applicants.

§ 3 — RESIDENT TEACHER CERTIFICATE

The bill extends the existing length of a resident teacher certificate from one to two years.

To qualify for a resident teacher certificate an applicant must (1) hold a bachelor's degree from an institution of higher education accredited in Connecticut or regionally accredited, (2) have a minimum undergraduate college cumulative grade point average of 3.00, (3) have achieved a qualifying score on the appropriate SBE-approved subject area assessment, and (4) be enrolled in an SBE-approved alternate route to certification program.

§ 4 — INCARCERATED PARENTS AND ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS

The bill specifies that an incarcerated parent is entitled to knowledge of, and access to, all the educational, medical, or similar records of his or her minor child kept by the school district except when:

1. information is not disclosable under the law regarding professional confidentiality between student and teacher or nurse;
2. the parent has been convicted of sexual assault in this or another state; or
3. the parent is prohibited from such knowledge of, or access to, the student's cumulative record under a court order.

§ 5 — ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TEACHER PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The bill makes a change to the appointing authority of two members of the Connecticut Advisory Council for Teacher Professional Standards. The bill changes the name of a union that appoints two members from the Connecticut Federation of Teachers-Connecticut to the American Federation of Teachers-Connecticut.

§§ 6 & 7 — LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND MONITORING PRIVATE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The bill requires boards to submit to an audit by the state auditors that examines the board's monitoring of student attendance in the private special education programs that the board contracts with in order to ensure proper services are being provided and to control costs. The bill requires the board to submit all records and accounts necessary to conduct the audit.

The bill also authorizes local boards to (1) require the private special education programs they contract with to provide monthly or quarterly reports detailing the services and frequency of services being provided, (2) review and reconcile such reports to the contracted services, and (3) conduct periodic site visits at the provider's location. It is not clear if a board can impose new requirements on a contractual relationship with a private special education provider when a contract is already in place.

§ 8 — PRIVATE SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION PILOT PROGRAM

The bill creates a private school transportation pilot program in four areas. It requires school districts within 12 miles of the West Hartford, New Haven, Shelton, and Montville school districts to participate in a pilot program to provide school transportation for students to attend an equivalent nonpublic school located in the four named school districts.

The bill includes the following conditions:

1. requests for transportation must be made at least 30 days in advance to the student's home district,
2. the nonpublic school must be in one of the four named districts, and
3. a local or regional board of education is not required to provide transportation if fewer than 10 students make such a request.

The program begins in the school year starting July 1, 2016 and ends in the year that starts July 1, 2025. (Although the bill uses July 1, 2016, presumably, this applies to the school year that begins starting July 1, 2017.) The bill authorizes a board providing the transportation to designate one or more pick-up and drop-off locations within the town.

The board of education providing the services will be reimbursed for costs of the transportation by either the students or by the nonpublic school in which the students are enrolled.

§ 9 — VISION SCREENING TESTS AND AUTOMATED SCREENING DEVICES

By law, school districts must provide annual vision screenings to children in kindergarten and grades one and three to five, inclusive. The screening must use a Snellen chart or equivalent device. The bill adds that the device may be an automated vision screening device.

§§ 10 & 11 — PRIVATE SCHOOL EMPLOYEE BACKGROUND CHECKS

The bill extends to private schools the applicant and employee

background check requirements that apply to public schools. It requires applicants for any positions in which the employee comes in direct contact with students to participate in, and consent to, a number of steps, including contacting former employers, to determine whether an applicant has a history of sexual misconduct or child abuse or neglect. Under the bill, job applicants must submit to state child abuse and neglect registry and state and national criminal background checks and provide contact information for current or former employers if the job involved contact with children.

The bill applies the following requirements regarding the hiring processes for private schools:

1. establishes procedures for hiring certain applicants for select positions with education employers, including student transportation workers, temporary hires, substitute teachers, and contractor employees;
2. establishes requirements for sharing information about applicants between education employers and SDE and among education employers;
3. grants immunity from civil and criminal liability to SDE and current and former employers that share information about applicants;
4. extends regional education service center (RESC) fingerprinting services and regulates fees for these services; and
5. extends the prohibition on a school entering into an agreement for resignation or severance or any other agreement that has the effect of suppressing information related to an investigation of suspected employee abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct.

Under current law, private schools may choose to take these steps.

§ 12 — STANDARDIZED FORM FOR CONTACTING FORMER EMPLOYERS

Under the bill and no later than June 30, 2017, SDE must make available to nonpublic schools a standardized question form to be used with current or former employers of education job applicants in order to obtain applicant background information.

§ 13 — TOWN AND BOARD OF EDUCATION AGREEMENTS ON NON-EDUCATIONAL FUNCTIONS

The bill explicitly allows boards of education to enter into contracts with the board of finance, board of selectmen, or similar entity of the town, as appropriate, to perform certain non-educational functions for the board. Nothing in statute currently prevents boards of education and other parts of town government from making such agreements.

§ 14 — SCHOOL NURSE TRAINING

The bill requires certain training for any school nurse who is (1) an advanced practice registered nurse or registered nurse licensed in Connecticut on or after July 1, 2017 and (2) appointed by a local or regional board of education to be a school nurse or nurse practitioner. It requires a nurse to successfully complete 12 hours of training, as prescribed by SDE, in consultation with the Association of School Nurses or a Visiting Nurse Association. The training (1) must be completed within one year after the nurse's appointment and (2) needs to be completed just once.

§ 15 — REQUIRED HEALTH INFORMATION SURVEY

Beginning with the school year starting on July 1, 2017, and each year thereafter, the bill requires each board of education to complete the SDE-issued Health Services Program Information Survey and submit it to SDE in a form and manner prescribed by the department.

§ 16 — SCHOOL NURSE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

The bill makes a change to the membership of the School Nurse Advisory Council. It removes the requirement that the representative from the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut must be employed at a private or parochial school.

§ 17 — DMV OVERSIGHT OF SCHOOL BUS COMPANY DRIVER MONITORING

The bill requires the motor vehicles commissioner to ensure that school bus companies are fulfilling their duty to monitor twice a month the commissioner's periodic reports on drivers who have had their licenses withdrawn, suspended, or revoked. The bill authorizes the commissioner to do this by:

1. conducting random compliance audits of bus companies to determine whether a company is performing the required review of the driver suspension report,
2. maintaining a record of each company review for the previous two years, and
3. making the record publicly available upon request.

By law, bus companies that fail to review the commissioner's report as required are subject to civil penalties.

§ 18 — LIBRARY INTERNET USAGE POLICY

The bill specifies that boards of libraries and public reading rooms must adopt policies and rules for internet usage and content access by library patrons on library devices. By law, these boards adopt bylaws, rules, and regulations for the operation and governance of libraries and reading rooms.

§ 19 — LITERACY IS FUNDAMENTAL GRANT PROGRAM

The bill requires SDE to create a Literacy Is Fundamental For Education program to award grants, within available appropriations, to local or regional boards of education in alliance districts, which are the 30 districts with the lowest scores based on the state's accountability index. For a grant, boards of education must submit an application in a form and manner the education commissioner decides.

The education commissioner must award the grants based on which application:

1. demonstrates need through the compilation of data on literacy and numeracy challenges facing students in the applying district;
2. provides for direct literacy and numeracy interventions by pairing individual students in kindergarten to grade three, inclusive, with a trained literacy or numeracy specialist;
3. demonstrates outreach and collaboration with nonprofit organizations that provide literacy or numeracy services to students in the applying district;
4. demonstrates the parental engagement in the application and in ongoing efforts to promote literacy and numeracy among all students; and
5. demonstrates outreach to nonprofit organizations or other community partners committed to providing ongoing financial support or other in-kind services.

BACKGROUND

School Security Infrastructure Grant Program

PA 13-3 established this competitive state grant program to improve security infrastructure in schools. The program reimburses towns, state charter schools, technical high schools, incorporated or endowed high schools or academies, private schools, and regional education service centers for certain expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2013 to (1) develop or improve security infrastructure; (2) train personnel to operate and maintain the security infrastructure; and (3) buy portable entrance security devices, such as metal detectors.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Education Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 32 Nay 1 (03/24/2017)